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THE OLD FRIENDS.

By Sarah Boudney.

Where are they scattered now,
The old, old, old friends?
One made her dwelling where the maples grow,
And mighty streams through solemn forests flow,
But never from the pine-crowned land of snow
A message sends.

Some meet me oft amid
Life's common ways;
And then perchance a word or smile declares
That warm hearts throb beneath their load of cares,
For love grows on, like wheat among the tares,
Till harvest days.

"But some are fall'n asleep,"
The words are sweet!
O friends at rest beneath the blessed sod,
My feet will tread the weary way ye trod
Ere yet your loving souls went back to God,
When shall we meet?

O Thou, divinest Friend,
When shall it be
That I may know them in their garments white,
And see them with a new and clearer sight,
Mine old familiar friends--made fair and bright,
Like unto Thee?

There are two suggestive articles in Harper's Magazine for February, on Music—one of which treats of training childrens' voices in Public Schools, in which the writer says "Music implies sweet sounds. If there are no sweet sounds, where is the music? What satisfaction can a musical ear possibly find in hearing musical feats of vocal reading if they be performed in a voice which reminds one of the circular saws in a lumber-mill? For my own part I would rather listen to the saws." Then instruction is given as to the training of voices of children, especially boys. "Give children high tunes to sing, and train the voice from high to low, and not low to high. The best Sunday School singing I ever heard was the result of careful singing of high tunes."

In the other article on a similar subject, by the Easy Chair, it is said, "A sweet and true, full and thoroughly trained voice, is a rare gift to any man." It is the "mingling in music of voice and skill and feeling which weave an enchanted spell."

How many readers are aware that Canada, excluding Alaska, is larger than the United States? But with Alaska added, the U. S. is said to have 3,603,881 square miles, whilst Canada has 3,470,257 square miles. But in population, there is a wide difference; for whilst the U. S. has an estimated population of 60,000,000, Canada has but about 5,000,000. Toronto, though a large city, has no horse cars running on Sunday; no saloons or beer gardens open on Sunday, and no Sunday newspapers.

Some persons assert that Prohibition is a failure where it has been tried. We won't dispute with them; but the following item from the "Kansas City Star," is significant, though cautiously expressed: "It may be due to prohibition, to the soil, or to the 'git-up-and-git,' of the people, but there is no other State in the Union where the poor houses do so little business as in Kansas."

In a long review of the "Work of John Ruskin," the writer discloses some peculiarities of the man, but we are unable to get a satisfactory idea of his religious views, as the reviewer, whenever he alludes to them, does so in a disparaging way; for instance, he says, "We cannot help feeling that even from a theological point of view his (Ruskin's) formalistic mysticism has often led him away from the moderation of good taste into serio-comic niceties, which reminded us of one of the class of injudicious preachers who thought he had found a good example of gratitude in the brute creation when he referred to the duck [is a duck a brute?—Ed. B.] that looks up to thank its Maker when drinking water, whereas this involuntary movement depends entirely upon the formation of its throat."

Ruskin is said to have been an early and constant reader of the Bible, and especially the Psalms, "and there is no doubt that his feeling for words and much of his grand style originally flowed from this source," and that "he owes much of the beauty of style to his early Bible reading, and we feel his powerful influence especially when he is solemn and divinely simple in his descriptions." Ruskin was not favorable to athletic sports and pastimes of England, or to the cupidity connected with large factories, steam-engines, railways, etc., and speaks of railway enterprizes as follows:

"The benevolence involved in the construction of railways amounts exactly to this much and no more—that if the British public were informed that engineers were now confident, after their practice in the Cenis and St. Gothard tunnels, that they could make a railway to hell, the British public would instantly invest in the concern to any amount, and stop church building all over the country for fear of diminishing the dividends."

It will be a long time to wait, if, as stated in an article about French Academies, etc., that a historical dictionary of the French language, began in 1852, will not be ready for issue, as announced by H. Renan, for, at the most moderate calculation, twelve hundred years!

"Young man," said he, "you have asked for my daughter's hand. I believe you are sincere, and yet, young man, there is one question I would like to ask you. Do you believe that marriage is a failure?" "Don't you think it is a little unfair to ask me to answer that question until after I see the wedding presents?" replied the matter-of-fact young man.—Times.

Speaking of suitable soil to start seeds in, the "Garden and Orchard" says, "The soil should not be too heavy, but have a fair proportion of sand in it; there is nothing better for this purpose than sifted coal ashes, which lighten the soil and causes a fine growth of fibrous roots."

A sure cure for a setting hen is to put her on live clams instead of eggs. As the clams begin to get warm, they open, and the hen don't go on that nest a second time.

"Ma, what is revenge?" "It's when your dadly scolds me, and I hit him with a broom-stick."

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HADDONFIELD, N. J., MARCH 29, 1889.

The Post-Office Department is a big affair, and as large bodies are said to move slow, perhaps there is not any thing very remarkable in the fact that, having mailed sundry letters to business men in Philadelphia last October, and, not being called for, were sent to the dead-letter office at Washington; and now, at the end of nearly five months, they have just reached us. Perhaps we should not have received them yet were it not that our new P. M. General, John Wanamaker, is a first class business man, who will stir up the "dry bones," and "put things to rights" in that department.

Mrs. Davis and her family are preparing to remove to the city. In consequence of this, her grand-daughter, Miss Laura Davis, was given a Farewell Party by Mrs. Capt. Samuels on Wednesday evening of last week. Refreshments were liberally provided, and the party engaged in various diversions and amusements, much to their gratification and enjoyment.

The cheerful prospect of an early Spring was somewhat chilled when, on the morning of the 21st of March, the first thing to greet our vision through the window, was about a two inch depth of snow mantling the ground, and still snowing, and kept on snowing till afternoon, when it turned to rain. It was a very gentle snow and rain-fall, however—no approach to a blizzard.

Communicated.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union celebrated its 2nd anniversary on Tuesday afternoon, March 19.

The exercises were opened with singing, reading the 58th Isaiah by Miss Elfret, and prayer by Rev. Mr. Werner. After the reading of the reports and music, the pastors of the Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist churches, being present, each made an earnest address, by which the hearts of the White Ribbons were cheered and encouraged to go on with renewed energy in their work. The Union now numbers 41 members, and meets every Tuesday afternoon in Wilkins' Hall. All are cordially invited.

The Bank is to open for business on the 1st of April.

Rev. C. P. E. Mayhew has been appointed to the Methodist Church at Collingswood.

Alfred E. Craven has resigned as secretary of the Free Reading Room, on account of press of private business.

Rev. Mr. Soy, of Camden, preached a stirring sermon at the Methodist church last Sunday morning, to an uncommonly large congregation.

Among the memoranda made by us we find the following: "March 23. Spring has come. We heard the sweet notes of a robin this morning and the frogs this evening.

Walter S. Soy was placed under \$4000 special bail by the Court at Camden, on Saturday last, for breach of promise of marriage, at the suit of Miss Fannie Weber.

The fire at Westmont, supposed to have been from spontaneous combustion, on Tuesday last, done some damage to the furniture in the dwelling of Rev. Mr. Wilkinson. The Haddonfield firemen, with their apparatus, started out, but, fortunately, the fire was extinguished before they arrived on the ground.

A Public School meeting was held at the school house, on Tuesday evening of last week, March 19. It was well attended. Wm. S. Hart, District Clerk, called the meeting to order, when Samuel Wood was chosen as chairman, and Edward Dewey secretary. Reports were submitted, and various sums of money asked for, amounting in all to near \$20,000—\$15,000 for a new school house. The latter was not granted, but a committee of nine was authorized to take the matter into consideration, and an adjourned meeting appointed to meet on the 2nd of April to hear the report. The committee consists of B. F. Fowler, John H. Lippincott, Henry D. Moore, Wm. Stiles, Chas. H. Hillman, Chas. H. Smith, E. H. Fell, Wm. S. Samuels, and Samuel Dunbar.

The next business in order was the election of one suitable person as Trustee in place of H. D. Moore, whose term of service had expired. T. Cooper Middleton was selected as judge; W. J. Boning, clerk, and A. McBurney and J. Morris Roberts, tellers.

There were three candidates running, viz: Charles Stevenson, who received 140 votes; H. D. Moore, for re-election who received 137 votes, and Capt. W. H. Samuels, who received 80 votes.

Charles Stevenson was, therefore, declared to be duly elected a Trustee for the ensuing three years. He is the son of Dr. John A. Stevenson, and is a rising young man—a lawyer by profession, stands well in the community, and no doubt will fill the office with credit to himself, and satisfactory to his constituents and the people generally. Quite a number of women came forward to vote on this question for the first time here, and we think it very probable that "Charlie" would have had a larger majority if Mr. Samuels had not been running.

There was much excitement at times, both in regard to money matters and the trusteeship, reminding us of years ago, when a Mr. May and his party attempted to ride rough shod over the people, by his extravagance and overbearing ways, when they became disgusted and "bounced" him, (as they will every time,) putting in Joshua Browning, under whose administration the school was efficiently, judiciously and satisfactorily conducted as long as he held the office of Clerk. The people had such confidence in him that whatever he asked for in relation to the school was freely granted.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Moore on his retiring from the position he had filled for the last 6 years.

Suitable school houses must be built, of course, to accommodate the increasing population, but the tax-payers are not willing to pay extravagant prices for fancy buildings. If wooden buildings are good enough for churches, public halls, etc., "what's the matter" with school houses? It is wonderful how liberal many persons are to have taxes increased on other people, but who themselves pay little or no taxes.

"Charlie" Barrett, whose death occurred a few days ago, we have known almost from his boyhood; met and conversed with him recently on a railway car in the city. He was a printer in his early days, and more recently a U. S. Post Office Inspector, from which he was removed under the Cleveland administration. He was seeking a restoration to the same position by obtaining signatures to a petition to P. M. Wanamaker. While about this, and calling at the office of a friend, had an attack of apoplexy—was removed to his home, and died the same evening. Age, 72 years.

It seems there were enough rummy men in our Legislature to repeal the local option law passed last winter.

Edward Swan, of Lynn, Mass., paying teller of a bank, is a defaulter to the amount of \$35,000. Living beyond his income and dealing in stocks, "that he might support his wife and two children in style."